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Hunter, R. *Socialists at Work*. Pp. 374. Price, \$1.50. New York: Macmillan Company, 1908.

This is a chronicle of some interesting facts concerning the Socialist movement, but of so incomplete a character as hardly to justify publication in book form. The material would serve well for a series of popular magazine articles entitled, "Notes on Socialism Abroad and at Home," but as a book it is hardly worthy of the perusal of a student.

The book is devoted in the main to the Socialist movement in Europe and details visits to the various Socialist conventions. Most attention is devoted to the Socialist party in Germany, which is held up as the most strongly and best organized of any of the political parties and therefore the most worthy of emulation by other Socialists. In analyzing the growth of the movement abroad, the author takes pains to show wherein the foreign conditions differ essentially from the American and to point out the fact that no conclusions for America can be based on European premises.

From this general criticism of the book, the only chapter which can be excepted is the one entitled "Socialism in Art and Literature." In this chapter the author presents in a new and interesting way a survey of the accomplishment of Socialists in these two fields. Altogether the material is quite noteworthy and well arranged.

The style of the book is interesting but by no means scholarly. The author has attempted to state the problem in a popularized way such as that employed by Mr. Wells in his "New Worlds for Old," but Mr. Hunter's book shows much less thought and mature judgment than that of Mr. Wells. On the whole, it would seem that one chapter of moment scarcely justifies the publication of a three-hundred page book.

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Lewis, G. R. *The Stannaries: A Study of the English Tin Miner*. Pp. 278. Price, \$1.50 net. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1908.

This very scholarly study, awarded the David A. Wells prize for 1906-07, is the outcome of an undergraduate thesis begun by Dr. Lewis at Harvard University, and represents three years of investigation—one in America and two in England. The book affords ample evidence of painstaking, intelligent work.

In his opening chapter the author treats of technical conditions in the English tin industry, which dates back at least to the bronze age. The early English kings were impressed with the superior skill of the Germans in mining and metallurgy, although Dr. Lewis points out that for centuries the English pewterer excelled his continental brother. It is the author's opinion that Kemble's declaration that mines formed part of the regalian rights of the Anglo-Saxon kings is based on charters that are inconclusive. In view of our present agitation for the preservation of natural resources, the following principles among others set forth by Emperor Frederick I,

are of special interest: first, mineral rights are essentially disconnected from tenure of the surface; second, the sovereign is the sole proprietor of mines and alone may grant individuals power to work them. The author has found his material inadequate to answer the question whether English mining laws represent a seizure of private property under asserted regal rights, or are fragments of a customary law antedating private property in land, or whether the mines were worked from the first under customs demanded by the peculiarities of the mining industry.

In the chapter on privileges and trade rules, there is a discussion of the right to dig tin wherever found and the limitations on that right. The author's treatment of industrial organization includes a brief sketch of the progress of mining organization in Germany, and in his last chapter he observes that early mining law was free from anything approaching the restraints of the guild system. Mining was characterized also by the earlier introduction of capitalistic forms of enterprise and further by an earlier introduction of the middleman than in other industries.

The eight chapters include the following: technical conditions; external history of the stannaries and the tin trade, early mining law, administration and justice, taxation and revenue, privileges and trade rules, industrial organization, labor and capital.

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McCormick, F. *The Tragedy of Russia in Pacific Asia.* 2 Vols. Pp. xxx, 913. Price, \$3.00 each. New York: Outing Publishing Company, 1907.

COTES, E. *Signs and Portents in the Far East.* Pp. 308. Price, \$2.50. New York: Putnam's Sons, 1907.

Among the rich literature that has grown out of the experiences of the Russo-Japanese War, the book of Mr. McCormick occupies a pre-eminence which it shares with very few others. Indeed there is no other book on the war which combines so many elements of excellence. Not only is it an intensely fascinating account of the great campaigns seen from the Russian ranks, but it is a deep study of the psychology of war, of military organization, strategy, and the great variety of human elements that went into the making of this vast drama. Mr. McCormick has indeed been rewarded for his courage and persistency, in braving the dangers of associating himself with the Russian troops in days when the Americans were intensely hated by them and in defying all the hardships of war; because this has enabled him to give an account of entirely unique value. While the human interest predominates in this work and imparts to it a great fascination, the author's studies of affairs and his insight into human nature have enabled him to make many valuable observations upon policies and political characteristics. He draws a vivid picture of the lack of intelligence and the demoralization on the Russian side. "The talents and energy spent in dissipation and graft were enough to have won the war twice over,"—that is his deliberate judgment. The Russian troops, while individually brave, were still largely in the